

Timely Tidbits ...

Hispanic Heritage Fest

The Wayne County Community College District's Hispanic Heritage Festival will be held at the Downriver Campus (21000 Northline Road, Taylor) from 1 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, August 16. The event will feature live music, traditional dance, an art exhibit and workshop, educational activities for all ages, piñatas, clowns, and delicious traditional foods.

Call 734-946-3500 for info.

Taylor Firefighters Ball

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Taylor Firefighters Ball, scheduled for Saturday, September 13, at the All-Saints Knights of Columbus Hall (24900 Brest Road).

The event, presented by Taylor Professional Firefighters Local 1252, will feature dinner, dancing, an open bar, great door prizes, and a \$1,000 grand-prize vacation package. Cocktails will be served starting at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m.

For tickets (\$35 per person) or more information, call Sam DiCicco (734-374-1388 or 313-363-0654).

Passport Fairs

The Taylor Post Office will hold its next two "passport fair" programs at the Taylor Community Library (12303 Pardee Road) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 9, and Saturday, September 13.

Call 734-946-4863 for info.

Volunteers Needed for Animal Shelter BINGO

The seventh annual BINGO benefit for the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter Fund will be held at the Romulus Senior Center (36525 Bibbins) during Romulus Pumpkin Festival weekend:

- Friday, September 19 – 5 p.m. to midnight;
- Saturday, September 20 – 1 p.m. to midnight; and
- Sunday, September 21 – 1 to 7 p.m.

Romulus City Councilman Bill Wadsworth, who spearheads the event each year, is looking for volunteers to help run the games. For information, call him (734-941-0616) or Joe Ozog (734-941-3466). □

Romulus Woman Shines on *America's Best Dance Crew*



Romulus native Della Hamby will appear on MTV's second-season finale of *America's Best Dance Crew*. Photo by Montana

By Kristi Stephens

When the second-season finale of *Randy Jackson Presents: America's Best Dance Crew* airs on August 21, area viewers will have another opportunity to watch "one of their own" display her talent and ability in the art she loves.

Della Hamby, a lifelong Romulus resident, is a member of A.S.I.I.D., one of 10 troupes from across the nation that vied for the popular MTV program's titular honor. Although the Detroit-based group was eliminated from competition during the show's fifth episode, its members, along with the rest of the dance troupes from the second season, have been invited back to Los Angeles for one final performance.

Of course, Hamby – or "Dellalicious," as she's billed on the MTV Web site – wanted A.S.I.I.D. to win it all, but she's far from disappointed with her *America's Best Dance Crew* experience.

"This has been an incredible opportunity – the best five weeks of my life," she said. "Besides gaining exposure on national television, I've made lots of professional contacts and met many wonderful, talented people."

What's next on Hamby's professional horizon?

"I'm not sure yet, but there are a couple of really exciting possibilities," she replied. "Right now, we're waiting to find out if A.S.I.I.D. will be invited to tour with several other troupes from the first and second seasons of *America's Best Dance Crew*."

"There's also a chance that we'll be dancing on tour with one of two Detroit-area acts that have recently signed record deals," she continued. "One is Vina Mills, a pop/R&B solo artist; the other is a singer/



Hamby (right) and fellow A.S.I.I.D. members (from left) Joey Antonio, Tristan Fisher, Melissa Benners, Himerria Wortham, and Adrian Harvey liked what *America's Best Dance Crew* judges said about their performance in the first episode. Photo by Chris Polk/MTV

rapper duo called Roc Stead."

Whatever she does, one thing is sure: she'll do it with heart, panache, and skill. Over the course of her relatively short life, Hamby has studied numerous dance styles, beginning with tap and jazz at a local dance studio called Shearrer's Arts N Motion, then conquering a much more diverse repertoire (including African, hip-hop, ballet, and lyrical) at Wayne State University, where she completed a bachelor of science degree in fine arts in 2007.

In between, the Romulus High School Class of 2003 alumna acquired additional flexibility and athleticism through participation in varsity cheerleading, volleyball, and track & field, and gained poise and confidence from her experiences as Miss Teen Michigan, RHS Homecoming Queen, and a member of the RHS symphony and marching bands.

It was while she was studying at WSU that Hamby first became involved with A.S.I.I.D., which stands for And So It Is Done. The significance of the group's name is based in its members' spirituality.

"It's an indication of the depth of our faith," explained Hamby. "It's the equivalent of 'Amen!' We put our minds to something, pray about it, then put our trust in the Lord. And so it is done!"

That powerful conviction led A.S.I.I.D. members Hamby, Himerria Wortham (of Berlin, Germany), Joey Antonio (Canton), and Detroiters Melissa Benners, Adrian Harvey, and troupe cofounder Tristan Fisher to drive to Chicago on a whim to audition for *ABDC*.

"We didn't even have a routine prepared; we were just familiar with the show from its first season," Hamby recalled. "But

we made the most of our various skills, and we made the final cut."

In fact, Hamby believes her group's diversity is one of the biggest factors contributing to its success.

"Some of us have had years of formal training; others, none at all," she said. "We have learned from each others' experiences, and it has enriched our lives as dancers and human beings."

Hamby also credits her success to a strong family support base. Dad William, mom Della, and brothers William (aka "Chuckii") and Chavis have always encouraged her to pursue her dreams. Especially inspirational has been the arrival of her new nephew, William "Charley" Hamby, who was recently born to Chuckii and his wife, Shannon (Dugan) Hamby – whom Della first met at Shearrer's Arts N Motion.

"As if there wasn't enough excitement in my life, I'm now a very proud aunt, too!" she exclaimed.

In light of recent events, it's no wonder that Hamby now encourages others to follow her lead and pursue their own dreams.

"I'm just this big dork from Romulus," she laughed. "Who would ever believe that all these wonderful things would happen to me?"

MTV's second-season finale of *Randy Jackson Presents: America's Best Dance Crew* will air live on Thursday, August 21, at 10 p.m. EDT.

Previous episodes may be seen at MTV.com and Comcast On Demand.

Editor's note: Those who would like to see A.S.I.I.D. take part in the MTV tour can vote for Hamby and her troupe at <http://omg.yahoo.com/blogs/crush/americas-best-dance-crew-goes-on-tour/6>. □

Capitol Update

Transportation Funding Options Introduced

By State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood,
22nd District

A seven-bill, bipartisan package recently introduced in the House would give counties the option of asking voters to approve certain countywide fee increases to supplement the county's transportation funding. The bills include the options of a 1% sales tax, a 20% vehicle registration increase, a \$25 driver's license fee, a \$.03-per-gallon gas tax, or a real estate transfer fee of \$.25 for every \$500 of a home's value.

In essence, should a county want to use any of these options to pay for road, bridge, or public transit projects within the county, its board of commissioners would be able to place the proposal to a countywide vote, detailing the local funding option requested and the specific project to which the revenue would go. More than a dozen states already have these options in place for their local communities to use when state and federal funding are not enough to cover the costs of needed or desired transportation projects.

As government officials and a state-appointed task force meet to address our transportation funding shortfall, local funding options should not be seen as a complete answer to this problem, but rather as one of the many tools needed to maintain and enhance our infrastructure and to meet the public's demands for better roads and public transit.

I look forward to further hearings on this issue in the House Transportation Committee.

Airport, Cities Reach Agreement on Airport Expansion Plan

The Wayne County Airport Authority approved a long-term expansion plan for Detroit Metropolitan Airport following an agreement with the airport's surrounding communities. The agreement addresses the controversial proposed addition of a fifth runway by dividing the Master Plan's Airport Layout Plan (ALP) into a Future ALP and an Ultimate ALP.

The Future ALP will go before the Federal Aviation Administration for final approval, and includes projects expected to take place before 2016. The Ultimate ALP includes developments (specifically the potential fifth runway) that would not be considered until after 2016, and which could only begin construction after a specific needs-based evaluation concludes that further expansion of the airport's capacity is necessary, and after the FAA approves the additional development.

Given the challenge of balancing the needs of the communities and their residents with the needs of the airport to plan for its future, this agreement appears favorable to both sides. The Airport Authority is able to continue developing the airport as a statewide economic asset and attract

new businesses to the region. At the same time, Romulus residents in the affected area have at least eight years of security before any further discussions take place.

I commend both sides for their hard work in reaching this agreement.

Taylor Preschool Receives State Support in Budget

Following recent, brief sessions, in which the K-12 budget and General Government budget were approved, only the Transportation and Capitol Outlay budgets remain.

The K-12 budget increases the per-pupil grant from \$56 to \$112, with districts possessing lower foundation allowances slated to receive the largest grant increases. It also allocates funding that will permit an additional 1,470 children to attend preschool programs, while maintaining the funding for the existing Michigan School Readiness Program at Taylor's Johnson Preschool Center.

Additionally, the General Government budget increases statutory revenue sharing to local municipalities by 2%. This increase will allow our cities to retain their fire and police services, along with other essential services.

I applaud my colleagues in the House and Senate for the progress we have made thus far, and look forward to the budget's completion.

Hopgood Introduces Bill Allowing Service Dogs To Remain with Their Owners in Emergencies

I recently learned from several of my constituents that there is no provision in state law that addresses what emergency responders should do with a service dog when the dog's owner needs emergency treatment or hospitalization.

Indeed, the only provision in state law regarding service dogs in emergency situations pertains to evacuation plans in the event of a natural disaster or physical or chemical attack, as was required by the federal government following the stories of owners being forced to leave their dogs behind as they were evacuated from New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

To address this shortcoming and bring peace of mind to owners of service dogs, I introduced House Bill 6354, a bill that would allow a service dog to remain with its owner in instances where the owner requires emergency transportation or hospitalization. Provisions are included to exempt dogs who act aggressively towards first responders or the staff of the health-care facility, or whose presence compromises the functioning of the facility.

HB 6354 has been assigned to the House Committee on Health Policy.

I invite residents to contact me with their thoughts and opinions about this new bill. □

New Service Helps Taylor Community Library Collect Seriously Overdue Materials, Fines

The Taylor Community Library is using a new service to recover long-overdue materials and fines, according to library director Linda Baum.

On July 1, the library began a 90-day trial period with Unique Management, Inc., a materials-recovery agency also employed by community libraries in Allen Park, Southgate, and Wyandotte. Taylor's agreement with Unique Management is essentially "budget neutral," Baum explained, because the company is compensated for its services with administrative fees levied on the overdue accounts.

Already, the fledgling program is returning dividends.

"As of today [August 5], 4 of 69 delinquent accounts have been paid in full," said Baum.

Because City officials understand that many Taylor families are both busy and financially strapped, the library has developed specific parameters regarding which and when overdue accounts are turned over to Unique Management. For instance, only accounts with materials that are at least two months late, and valued at \$25 or more, will be put into the system. Of course, no minors, regardless of their account status, will be included in the program.

Baum also noted that the recovery process is conducted as civilly as possible.

"Before an account becomes part of the new system, the library sends out two of its own notices – one after two weeks, the second about a month later," said Baum. "If these are disregarded, Unique Management will send out an initial letter encouraging patrons to return their materials. Only those who continue to ignore friendly reminders for a period of 120 days or more will face more serious collection action."

Baum believes that the library has a fiscal and fiduciary responsibility to pursue long-overdue materials.

"This action is being undertaken with fairness to all library patrons in mind," she said. "Materials not returned are not available for others to borrow. Also, if materials are not returned, money from the library budget is often used to replace them."

Most library materials that are not on a waiting list are available for renewal twice. Books may be kept up to nine weeks with extended renewals; some audiovisual items have shorter loan periods to accommodate user demand.

The Taylor Community Library is located at 12303 Pardee Road. Library hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call the library at 734-287-4840. □

the little paper

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Airport Adopts Compromise Plan



Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert took questions from the media following the WCAA's approval of a compromise development plan. Photo by R. E. Kadam

On July 24, the Wayne County Airport Authority approved a compromise Preferred Development Plan that Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert called "favorable to all our communities."

Initial plans provided for the demolition of more than 800 homes, dozens of businesses, and at least one elementary school on the city's south side to make room for an additional runway. But heavy opposition from many local officials and residents led the WCAA to put that part of the proposal on the back burner - at least for now.

"Members of the Wayne County Airport Authority Board were pleased that, with the help of Congressman Dingell's office, airport management and the communities were able to reach a consensus on a master plan for Detroit Metropolitan Airport," said Airport Public Affairs director Mike Conway. "After several meetings, a

proposal was developed which will give the airport the opportunity to grow when the need arises. ...

"Airport management is now developing a Future Airport Layout Plan (ALP) and an Ultimate ALP ... The Future ALP includes projects anticipated prior to 2016 and the Ultimate Plan depicts projects beyond that time frame. This means that the airport's seventh runway and land acquisition associated with it will not be shown on the Future Plan, but the Ultimate Plan."

A prepared statement from Lambert said, "The bottom line: The shadow of a devastating runway has been removed from our communities," said Lambert. "Should the airport need to meet growing demand in the future, it will approach local communities; use the most current data available to demonstrate a need; and work in full partnership with us." □

WCAA Seeks Public Input in Final Phase of Law Enforcement Accreditation Process

On August 11, the Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) will provide two opportunities for the public to submit comments regarding law enforcement at Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run Airports, according to a WCAA statement issued last week. The solicitation of comments is part of the WCAA's two-year process to attain international law-enforcement accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

Attaining CALEA accreditation, a process WCAA initiated in late 2007, requires that airport law enforcement be in compliance with over 390 professional standards. CALEA accreditation implies that a law-enforcement agency is among the top-performing such organizations in the world.

As part of the final phase of the accreditation process, a team of CALEA assessors will spend five days examining WCAA public safety operations. Assessors will observe WCAA public-safety personnel, equipment, and operating

procedures; interview public-safety officers; and tour airport facilities and other Authority properties.

From 1 to 3 p.m. on August 11, assessors will make themselves available to members of the public by phone. Callers will have the opportunity to speak with one of the CALEA assessors regarding the accreditation process, and to provide input on WCAA law enforcement. Members of the public who wish to participate may do so during this two-hour period by calling 734-247-7027.

Beginning at 5 p.m., the WCAA will host a Public Information Session at Detroit Metro Airport's Smith Terminal Mezzanine, where CALEA assessors will also be available to address comments and questions from the public.

For more information regarding the CALEA accreditation process, visit www.calea.org.

For more information regarding the WCAA's public information programs on August 11, call WCAA Police Captain William Dunbar (734-942-5302).

Taylor To Host Annual Junior League World Series of Baseball August 10-16

Baseball fans everywhere are invited to join the festivities of the 28th annual Junior League World Series of baseball, set for August 10-16 at World Series Field in Taylor's Heritage Park (12111 Pardee Road).

The event, which has always been held in Taylor, attracts the 10 best teams of 13- and 14-year-old ballplayers from around the world. Five regional champions from across the United States will be joined by the national champions of Canada and Mexico, plus champions of Latin America, the Far East, and a region that includes Europe, the Middle East, and Africa.

To date, the qualifying teams include Hilo, Hawaii, and Alvin, Texas, from the USA Pool; Manila, Philippines (Asia-Pacific champion); Willemstad, Curacao; of the Northern Antilles (Latin America champion); London, England (champion of Europe, the Middle East and Africa); and Boca Del Rio, Veracruz (national champions of Mexico).

Opening ceremonies – free and open to the public – will begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday, August 9. Highlights will include a colorful Parade of Champions, a welcome by dignitaries, a special opening-pitch ceremony, and fireworks.

World Series games will get under way at noon Sunday, August 10. Four games will be played each day August 10-14, setting the stage for the championship games of the International and USA pools at 5 and 8 p.m. on Friday, August 15.

The world championship will be decided at 5 p.m. Saturday, August 16. For the eighth straight year, the title game will be taped by ESPN2 for future broadcast and shown live on ESPNU.

Players and spectators at evening games will benefit from brand-new lighting installed at World Series Field.

Ticket prices are a modest \$5 per day per carload, or \$10 per car for the entire series. Both fees include parking.

The World Series was founded in Taylor in 1981 and never left. It's considered the big brother of the Little League World Series (for 12-year-old players), which is held in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

To date, teams have come to Taylor from 27 different states and 18 other countries. At least 10 players have gone on to play Major League baseball, including Gary Sheffield of the Detroit Tigers.

Highlights, history, and photos of past World Series appear on the City of Taylor's Web site: www.cityoftaylor.com/worldseries.

This year's World Series will be dedicated to Andy Gerick, the official World Series scorekeeper and statistician since its inception. He died in January.

The 2007 Junior League champion is Pearl City, Hawaii, which defeated the Asia-Pacific champions from Manila, Philippines, 6-2.

Sponsorships and donations fund the World Series, and a massive volunteer effort makes it happen. To volunteer or become a sponsor, call 734-287-8836.

Inquiries about the annual Junior League World Series may be directed to 734-374-1447 or TaylorNews@aol.com. □

JUNIOR LEAGUE WORLD SERIES

(Heritage Park, Taylor)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, 2008

Saturday, August 9

- Parade of Champions, Opening Ceremonies, and Fireworks, 8 p.m.

Sunday, August 10

- Canada vs. Latin America, noon
- USA West vs. USA Southwest, 2:45 p.m.
- EMEA* vs. Mexico, 5:30 p.m.
- USA Central vs. USA South, 8:15 p.m.

Monday, August 11

- USA West vs. USA South, 11 a.m.
- Canada vs. Asia-Pacific, 2 p.m.
- USA Southwest vs. USA East, 5 p.m.
- Mexico vs. Latin America, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, August 12

- USA Central vs. USA Southwest, 11 a.m.
- EMEA* vs. Latin America, 2 p.m.
- Asia-Pacific vs. Mexico, 5 p.m.
- USA West vs. USA East, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, August 13

- USA South vs. USA East, 11 a.m.
- Asia-Pacific vs. EMEA*, 2 p.m.
- USA Central vs. USA West, 5 p.m.
- Canada vs. Mexico, 8 p.m.

Thursday, August 14

- Canada vs. EMEA*, 11 a.m.
- USA Central vs. USA East, 2 p.m.
- Asia-Pacific vs. Latin America, 5 p.m.
- USA Southwest vs. USA South, 8 p.m.

Friday, August 15

- International Championship, 5 p.m.
- USA Championship, 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 16

- World Championship Game, 5 p.m.

*EMEA=Europe/Middle East/Africa Region

Note: All games will be played on World Series Field in Taylor's Heritage Park, 12111 Pardee Road. Admission is \$5 per carload per day or \$10 per carload for the entire series. Visit www.cityoftaylor.com/worldseries for updates. □

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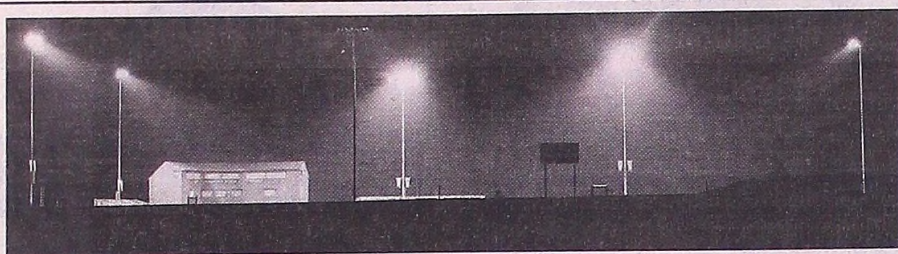
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New Lights Improve Visibility, Safety



New lights installed at World Series Field in Taylor will improve both visibility and safety for the Junior League World Series. (See story on opposite page.)

Faced with the choice of installing expensive new lights for the 2008 Junior League World Series in Taylor, or waiting until more funds were available next year, director Greg Bzura said it came down to one factor: the safety of the players.

Musco Sports Lighting, working with G & B Electrical Contractors, removed eight antiquated wooden light poles at World Series Field in Heritage Park, and replaced them with six energy-efficient galvanized steel poles that are expected to provide better light on the field at half the electricity cost. The lights will be on during the August 9 opening ceremonies and night games of the World Series, set for August 10-16.

Matt Ruhlig, Musco field sales representative for Michigan, said the new lights are "much brighter - probably twice as bright" as the former system.

The previous light poles were 23 years old, came with costly electric bills, and could

shift with a stiff wind and play havoc with a fielder's view. This was a concern not only for World Series players, but also local kids who play on the field throughout the year.

"There's no question we were facing the inevitable time when someone could get injured seriously because of blind spots due to the lack of proper lighting," Bzura said.

World Series organizers and officials from the Taylor South Little League, who takes care of World Series Field for the City of Taylor, decided it would be better to install new lighting this year and continue raising funds to make payments on the \$120,000 investment.

"We made the call that we have to get it, regardless of the cost," Bzura said. "We believe the amount is worth it, knowing we're providing safety" for the children."

Nearly \$40,000 has been raised to date, with half coming from a \$20,000 "challenge grant" from the Detroit Tigers Foundation.

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KHS Grad Recognized for Achievement

Taylor Mayor Cameron G. Priebe has issued a proclamation recognizing and congratulating the personal and academic achievements of resident Stephen Derry II.

Derry graduated *cum laude* from John F. Kennedy High School on June 8, 2008, with two tassels (representing construction and repair) earned through the school's construction curriculum. Derry's interest in the field was fueled by the tutelage of Lorenzo Shelton, a retired Michigan State licensed residential builder, who taught Derry residential electrical and plumbing skills.

For his extracurricular instruction, the proclamation also recognized Shelton's "guidance and mentoring" of Derry.

Shelton brought Derry to Mayor Priebe's attention by writing a letter that outlined Derry's accomplishments despite much adversity. Also recognized in the proclamation was Derry's participation in the United Generation Council Theatrical Troupe, a community organization that campaigns against the use of alcohol, tobacco and recreational drugs.

Not mentioned was Derry's athletic ability in football and basketball. He sacrificed high-school sports in order to get a job to help with family expenses.

Taylor City Council Chairman Douglas A. Geiss was present to congratulate Derry at his graduation party on July 12.

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Stephen Derry II (center) was congratulated by mentor Lorenzo Shelton (left) and Taylor City Council Chairman Douglas A. Geiss. Photo by Avelardo Paredes



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Donors of \$25 or more will be recognized in a "book of friends."

Around the Area



The "Foxy Red Hatters" were treated to a fashion show when Dottie Hefferon (left) of Victorian Rose Boutique brought clothing in the society's signature colors to the Romulus Senior Center. Among those taking part in the program were (from left) club members Jo-Ann Brown ("Queen Mother"), Laverne Hackett, and Barbara Underwood, as well as "Pink Hatter"/guest Julie Grose. *Photo by R. E. Kadan*



Romulus Democratic Club president Jack Trumble (right) welcomed Lieutenant Governor John Cherry to a club picnic held at Elmer Johnson Park on July 26. The event was free and open to the public. *Photo by R. E. Kadan*



The fourth annual Telegraph Tomorrow Classic Car Cruise on July 26 drew thousands of classic car buffs and spectators. The event, named for the Telegraph Tomorrow Association that works to improve/promote U.S. 24, followed a route from Eureka Road in Taylor to Puritan Road in Redford. *Photo by Dave Gorgon*

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Taylor Auxiliary Police Department Welcomes 13 Volunteer Officers

The 13 newest members of the Taylor Auxiliary Police say they are well trained, and are already performing volunteer duties.

The 2008 graduating class went from cadets to officers during a subdued ceremony held recently in the Taylor City Council chambers.

New Officer Joseph Morrissey III earned class honors for academics and leadership. He recited the core values and ethics of the auxiliary force, which supplements the city's full-time police department year-round.

Officer Scott Wrenn shared personal reflections about the class and training, concluding with the hope that he and his classmates would make the City of Taylor proud. Wrenn earned the class marksmanship award with an exceptional score of 498 out of a possible 500. Lieutenant John Edwards, who emceed the graduation ceremony, said the city was indeed fortunate to have Wrenn on the side of law enforcement.

The other 11 graduates of the all-volunteer force are James Downey, Adam Forestell, Timothy Justus, Ronald Kohmescher, David Morey, Matthew Ouellette, Wesley Price, Michael Prichard, Donald Seguin, Brent Trotta II, and Andrew Yee.

The latest crop of officers was culled from an original pool of 60 applicants. Leaders of the auxiliary said the training – conducted by staff members including Edwards, Commander John Muse, Corpo-



Participating in graduation ceremonies were the 13 newest members of the all-volunteer Taylor Auxiliary Police Department: (from left) Joseph Morrissey III, Scott Wrenn, Ronald Kohmescher, Andrew Yee, Michael Prichard, Wesley Price, David Morey, Donald Seguin, Brent Trotta II, Adam Forestell, Matthew Ouellette, James Downey, and Timothy Justus. Photo by Avelardo Paredes

ral Robert Grimm Jr., and Officer Jerry Daniels – is very challenging.

Those on hand to welcome the new officers aboard were Taylor Director of Police Services Jac Desrosiers, Police Chief Dale Tamsen, Lieutenant Mark Tonge (who serves as liaison to the auxiliary), City Treasurer Wayne Avery, Auxiliary Chief Larry Domski, and Domski's command staff. Mayor Cameron G. Priebe sent congratulations to the new graduates and a "thank you" to all of the volunteer officers.

The members of the Auxiliary Police commit themselves to serving the city every month on a volunteer basis in a variety of

duties. The volunteers help patrol special events like the annual Meijer Taylor Summer Festival, and also perform duties like checking on homes during summer vacations, patrolling parks and schools, assisting with traffic direction during emergencies, and assisting during elections, church festivals, and other large events.

The Auxiliary Police Department is accepting membership applications, which may be picked up at the Taylor Police Department or downloaded from the City Web site, www.cityoftaylor.com. The next training class will start in February.

To be eligible, a candidate must be at

least 21 years old, have a clean criminal record and clean driving record, be a U.S. citizen, and have a high-school diploma or general equivalency degree.

For further information, please call 1-734-374-4050. □

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Sassy Seniors

For more information about these or other programs, contact the appropriate senior center.

Brownstown

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Bingo Breakfast

The Senior Center's next Bingo Breakfast is set for Monday, August 18, at 9 a.m. Pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice, and coffee will be the menu for the morning.

A donation of \$2.50 is requested from those not playing bingo. Register in advance at the Recreation desk.

Potluck & Games Night

The Brownstown Senior Center's next Potluck & Games Night is set for Monday, August 25, at 5 p.m. Bring a dish to pass and a \$.50 donation, or come without a dish and make a \$3 donation. (The Center provides a meat dish and beverages.)

Advance registration (at the Recreation desk) is required.

Shopping Trips

For a transportation cost of just \$1, Brownstown seniors can ride the Center's bus to shop at the following destinations:

- Meijer (11 a.m. on Wednesday, August 20, and Tuesday, September 2),
- Kroger (11 a.m. on Wednesday, August 13, and Wednesday, August 27), and
- WalMart and Family Dollar (10 a.m. on Thursday, August 14).

Preregister at least 24 hours in advance.

Special Trips

Both residents and nonresidents are invited to take part in one of these trips.

- **Afternoon at the Movies** (Tuesday, August 19; \$19 cost includes transportation, a buffet-style lunch, and admission to a first-run movie),
- **Tigers Baseball** (Thursday, August 14; \$45 cost includes transportation, lunch, and admission to the game versus the Toronto Blue Jays), and
- **"Salute to Seniors - Flint"** (Wednesday, September 3; \$50 cost includes transportation, a box lunch and plated dinner; live entertainment, admission to several vendors and museums, and shopping in the arts & crafts tents).

Call the Center for more information.

Regular Events

Regular programs offered by the Center include:

- euchre (Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- quilting (Wednesdays, 9 a.m.),
- exercise (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 a.m.; \$.25 donation/class).

Romulus

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Shopping Trips

Romulus seniors are invited to ride the Center's bus, free of charge, to shop at Meijer on Monday, August 11; Kmart on Monday, August 18; and Wal-Mart on Monday, August 25. Transportation departs from the Center at 9:30 a.m.

Reservations are accepted on a first-come/first-served basis.

Senior Day at the State Fair

The Romulus Senior Center will travel to the Michigan State Fair on Senior Day (Monday, August 25), which features free gate admission for people 62 and over.

Preregister at the Center.

Special Trips

"Special trip" destinations for the coming months include *Windsor Raceway* (August 26; \$15), *"Official Tour of Hell (Michigan)"* (September 25; \$59), and *Chelsea Teddy Bear Company and Jiffy Factory Tours* (October 23; \$53).

Call for more information.

Regular Programs

Free or low-cost weekly programs offered at the Romulus Senior Center include:

- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- fun night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- game day (Thursdays, 1 p.m.), and
- walking club (Fridays, 1 p.m.).

Hot Lunches Beat the (Cooking) Heat

Don't forget that the Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. weekdays (except for holidays) for a suggested donation of only \$2.25. This month's menu includes BBQ pulled pork, Swedish meatballs, lemon pepper chicken, stuffed peppers, egg salad, mac & cheese, and veggie lasagna.

Call by noon at least one business day in advance to make your reservation.

Taylor

6750 Troy • 313-291-7740

Senior Day Picnic

The annual Senior Day Picnic - set for Thursday, August 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - will feature plenty of food and fun. Activities will include karaoke, dancing, and games like kick the shoe, a bubble-gum-blowing contest, billiards, ping-pong, and BINGO. Lots of great prizes, too!

Cost for the picnic (open to Taylor residents, only) is just \$5. Preregister by Thursday, August 21.

"An Afternoon at the Movies"

Enjoy a gourmet buffet and dessert, then check out *Mamma Mia!* (with complimentary popcorn and beverages) on Tuesday, August 19. Bus departs from the Center at 10:15 a.m. and returns at about 4 p.m.

A cost of \$18.75 includes transportation, lunch, and admission. Advance registration is required.

Watercolor Workshop

A watercolor workshop will be offered at the Center each Thursday from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 plus supplies (bring your own or buy from the teacher for \$1.50 per week).

Wood-carvers Meet

Local wood-carvers meet at the Ford Senior Center every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. Anyone interested in taking up this hobby, either again or for the first time, is welcome to stop in and see what it's all about. □

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Community Calendar

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to 734-992-2052; or e-mail it to thelittlepaper@comcast.net by 5 p.m. on Friday, August 15.

All events are subject to change without notice. *The little paper* recommends calling ahead before making any plans.

Belleville

Wayne County Fair

The 62nd Annual Wayne County Fair will continue through Saturday, August 9.

Visit waynecountyfairgrounds.net for information.

"Cruzin' the Park" Car Show/Swap Meet

See hundreds of classic cars and street rods, plus muffler-ripping and flame-throwing competitions at Cruzin' the Park, to be held at Lower Huron Metropark the weekend of August 22-24.

For information, call 734-697-9181 or visit www.metroparks.com.

Chamber's Annual Golf Outing

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf outing on Friday, September 5, at the Eagle Crest Golf Club (1275 South Huron Street, Ypsilanti).

For information, call 734-697-7151.

Friends of the Library

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library will be held at the Fred C. Fischer Library (167 4th Street) on Saturday, September 6, at 9:30 a.m.

For information, call 734-699-3291.

Farmer's Market

Farmer's Market – held at Victory Park (Five Points intersection in downtown Belleville) – is open each Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

For information, call 734-697-9323.

Brownstown Township

Waterfowl Fest & Duck Hunters Tourney

The Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival & Michigan Duck Hunters Tournament to be held at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area the weekend of September 20-21 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – will feature a trading post, demonstrations, art shows, contests, kids' activities, and more.

Visit www.miwaterfowlfest.org/events/ for information.

Huron Township

Nursery Accepting Applications for Fall

Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery (located in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 19109 Craig Street) is accepting applications for ages 30 months to 5 years.

The school's curriculum promotes social development and kindergarten readiness through activities such as art, music, exercise, field trips, and much more.

There is also a tots program for ages 18 months to 2 years.

Because parents help run the nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization, spokespersons say tuition costs are very reasonable.

Call Becki Graybeal (734-941-3926) for information.

Romulus

Free Outdoor Concert/Movie Series

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation will wrap up its series of free Friday concerts and Saturday movies with the following events, to be held at Romulus Historical Park (Hunt Street near the post office downtown).

On August 8, Marsha Gayle will perform "Top 40" music from 7 to 8:30 p.m.; August 9's movie (*Facing the Giant*) will begin at 9:30 p.m.

August 22's concert – again, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. – will feature Straight Ahead performing R&B/jazz, while the August 23 movie (9:30 p.m.) will be *Mr. Magorium's Emporium*.

Bring blankets and chairs. Concessions and "inflatables" will be available.

For information, call 734-941-8665.

Youth Group Swim Night

The Romulus Athletic Center (35765 Northline Road) will hold a Youth Group Swim Night from 9 p.m. to midnight on Friday, August 8.

Cost is \$8 per person.

For information, call 734-942-2223.

Second Monday Book Club

Meetings of the Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – are held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. Advance registration is not required for this free program; just read the suggested book, then drop in and enjoy the discussion and refreshments.

Books planned for discussion include:

- *Pontoon: A Lake Wobegon Novel* by Garrison Keillor (August 11),
- *Land of the Morning Calm* by Harry Bryce – featuring an author visit (September 8),
- *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon (October 13), and
- *A River Runs Through It* by Norman Maclean (November 10).

For information, call 734-942-7589.

RHS Class Reunion

Romulus High School's Class of 1966 will meet for its annual reunion August 15-16. Friday's get-together will be held at Leonardo's Italian Grille (7575 Merriman Road) at 8 p.m. On Saturday, Tom Zbikowski will host a picnic at his home on Ozga Road. (Call for details.)

Class members and friends are encouraged to attend one or both of the events.

Call Gary Gasser (248-476-0527), Marge Bergman (734-595-0187), Linda (Goforth) Lawrence (734-306-0546), or Zbikowski (734-941-3185) for information.

Chamber's Annual Golf Outing

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce will host its annual golf-outing fund-raiser at Woodlands of Van Buren Golf Course (39670 Ecorse Road, Wayne) on Thursday, August 21. Registration, continental breakfast, and practice range use will begin at 10 a.m.; shotgun start time is 11 a.m. A 4 p.m. banquet will wrap things up.

A registration cost of \$120 per player/\$480 per foursome also covers various cash and door prizes. Tickets for the dinner/door prize only are \$40 each.

Call Karen La Belle (734-893-0694) or David Goodwin (734-287-2400) for registration and/or sponsorship information.

Scrapbooking Adventures

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation's next Scrapbooking Adventure program – open to ages 16 and up – will be held at 11189 Shook Road from 12 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, August 23.

A cost of \$20 per event covers at least three feet of crop space; dinner, snacks, and water; and a door-prize drawing. Scrapbooking supplies will be available for purchase from a vendor. Space is limited; pre-register at the Romulus Athletic Center (35765 Northline Road) by August 22.

For information, call 734-941-8665.

Men's Sunday Softball League

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation is now forming a Men's Sunday Softball (USSSA "D") League for play at Elmer Johnson Park (9755 Ozga).

A \$50 deposit will hold your team's spot until the registration deadline (Monday, August 25), when the remainder of the \$350 per-team fee must be paid in full. The amount covers a 12-game schedule (all doubleheaders), umpire fees, playoff tournaments, and awards. An unlimited number of residents and nonresidents are allowed.

A managers' meeting will be held at the Parks and Recreation Department on Tuesday, September 2, at 5 p.m.

For information, call 734-941-8665.

Taylor

Computer/Peripherals Waste Collection

The Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a computer/computer peripherals waste collection from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, August 23, at Taylor Lanes (24800 Eureka). Only the following items will be accepted: CPUs, computer monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, copiers, fax machines, and cell phones.

Unacceptable items include boxes, manuals, and software.

For information, call 734-326-3936.

"Youth Theater" Auditions

Youths age 6 to 19 years are invited to audition for "A Holiday to Remember" – a musical planned for mid December.

Auditions will be held August 26-28, 7 to 9:30 p.m., at the Taylor Activity Building in Heritage Park (12111 Pardee Road).

Those who would like to try out should be prepared to learn a short dance and sing a solo of his/her choice. Bring either a karaoke CD or sheet music; no *a cappella* singing will be permitted.

Once cast, youths 13 and under will rehearse mainly on Saturdays, while older teens will do so during weekday evenings. The two groups will begin working together near the end of the rehearsal schedule.

A sample CD is now available at the Taylor Parks and Recreation Building (22805 Goddard Road).

For information, call 734-374-3906.

Taylor Center High School Reunion

Alumni from Taylor Center's 1989, 1990, 1991, and 1992 are organizing a joint class reunion at the MotorCity Hotel and Casino in Downtown Detroit.

Tickets for the event – set for 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 27 – are \$75 each.

Visit TaylorAlumni.org for information.

Van Buren Township

"Sizzlin' Summer Nights" Concerts

Admission to the Sizzlin' Summer Nights concerts held in Van Buren Park (off the South I-94 Service Drive, just east of Rawsonville Road) is \$6: \$3 for park admission and \$3 for the concert itself.

Scheduled programs – both of which begin at 7 p.m. – include:

- The Sun Messengers (R&B/big band) – August 8
- "Back Beats Tribute to the Beatles" – August 15

For information, call 734-699-8926.

"Thunder Over Michigan" Air Show

"Thunder Over Michigan" – to be held at Willow Run Airport on Saturday, August 9, and Sunday, August 10 – will feature various shows and attractions from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day.

Visit yankeearmuseum.org/airshow/schedule.htm for information.

Westland

Kids' Day

This free event, sponsored by the Wayne County Department of Parks and Recreation, will feature wacky "Olympic" games, hula-hoop contests, water-balloon races, live entertainment, and more.

Kids' Day will be held at Hines Park – Nankin Mills Area on Saturday, August 16, from 1 to 3 p.m.

For information, call 734-261-1990 or visit www.waynecountyparks.org. □

60th Anniversary

Joseph and Mary Dolencic



Joseph and Mary Dolencic

Lifelong Romulus residents Joseph and Mary Dolencic are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary.

The couple – who were married on August 14, 1948 – met while attending Romulus High School, from which Joseph graduated in 1946, Mary in 1948.

Living and raising three children in Romulus, the Dolencics have been active

community members for most of their lives.

Joseph was elected as a Township of Romulus constable, holding that office until a Township Police Department was formed. He applied for a position in the new department and became a full-time officer. Later, when Romulus turned over its law-enforcement duties to the Wayne County Sheriff, Joseph transferred to the Sheriff's Department, where he was employed until his retirement in 1998.

Mary has worked for St. Vincent DePaul, the Romulus Senior Center Bowling League, and the City of Romulus at election time. She was employed as a respiratory technician at Wayne County Hospital before her retirement.

Both are active parishioners at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Romulus.

On August 16, Joseph and Mary will commemorate their anniversary with a blessing of their marriage during a 5 p.m. service at St. Aloysius. A reception with family and friends will follow. □

As part of our continued commitment to community service, *the little paper* publishes obituaries, free of charge, for families residing within our distribution area (Belleville, Brownstown, Romulus, Sumpter, Taylor, and Van Buren). For more information, please call Kristi Stephens, editor, at 734-941-1907.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Belleville, Brownstown, New Boston, Romulus, or Taylor, *the little paper* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

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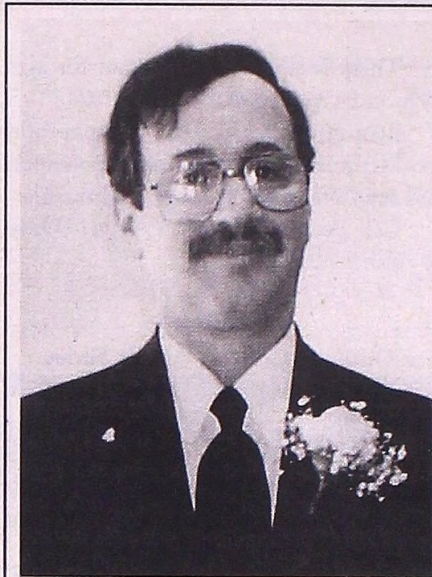
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

Obituaries

Randy L. Pooley



Randy L. Pooley

Randy L. Pooley – a lifelong resident of Romulus, Michigan – passed away on Wednesday, July 16, 2008, at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital (Wayne, MI).

The son of Ethel (Thomas) Pooley and the late Richard Pooley was born in Wyandotte, Michigan, on Sunday, October 24, 1954.

On February 3, 1973, Randy married his high-school sweetheart, Barbara Sellars. They and their 3 children enjoyed camping, traveling, and always being together.

Randy was employed by the City of Romulus Department of Public Works for 33 years.

Sadly, he left behind his wife; 3 daughters, Liza (Victor) Ensminger (Romulus), Candy (Ron) Carpenter (Lake Odessa, MI), and Tammy (Tom) Stidham (Romulus); 3 grandchildren, Megan Ensminger, Kyle Morgan, and Victor Ensminger; and a great-grandson, Craig Stidham. He is also survived by his mother; 3 brothers, Robert, Raymond, and Ron; a sister, Virginia; and many nephews and nieces.

Preceding him in passing were his father and a brother, Richard.

A funeral service was held on Friday, July 18, at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home (Flat Rock), with Randy's brother, Reverend Raymond Pooley, officiating.

Cremation rites were accorded.

Joseph Rohde, Jr.

Joseph Rohde, Jr., of Atlanta, Michigan, passed away on Friday, August 1, 2008, at the age of 82.

The son of the late Joseph Sr. and Martha (Jaikowski) Rohde was born in Detroit, Michigan, on Monday, December 21, 1925.

Joseph – a U.S. Navy veteran who served during World War II – retired from the Wayne County Road Commission as a supervisor after 30 years of employment. He was an avid deer hunter who enjoyed watching televised sports (especially the Detroit Red Wings and Detroit Tigers) and planting a garden every year. He especially loved spending time with his family and friends.

Surviving Joseph are his son, Joseph III (Donna) Rohde (Atlanta); 2 daughters, Diana Khattab (Belleville, MI) and Sharon Rohde (Taylor, MI); 7 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; a brother, Eugene Rohde (Warren, MI); and 2 sisters, Alice Ferns (Hale, MI) and Doris Radachy (Northville, MI).

Among those who preceded him in passing was his wife, Bernice (Boltz) Rhode.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, August 6, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor Gary Hopp (Lovells Community Chapel, Lovells, MI) officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock). □

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The Romulus Community School District

will be accepting

Schools of Choice Enrollments August 11 – 22, 2008

In addition to a quality education for your child, we offer:

School latchkey program

Boys & Girls Club (available until 8:30 p.m. for \$35/year)
includes transportation from home school to Boys & Girls Club schools

Kindergarten – Eighth Grade 10 openings per grade

Eligibility:

Students must reside in Wayne County

The District will not accept any student who has been
suspended or expelled from school within the last two years

Enrollment process:

Enrollment forms may be obtained **now** at:

Romulus Board Office
36540 Grant Road
734-532-1600

Beginning August 11, 2008 through August 22, 2008:

Parent/legal guardian must be present at time of enrollment
with the following:

Child's birth certificate

Child's immunization records

Proof of custody (if parent's name is not listed on child's
birth certificate)

For questions, please call 734-532-1600